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JULIE NAUMAN

CalVCP Shares Its Expertise in Victims' Rights with McGeorge Law Students

Highlights victim rights and restitution

Sacramento, CA – The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) has completed an advanced victim services training for students of the Crime Victims Representation Clinic and Victims of Crime Resource Center at the University of the Pacific at McGeorge School of Law. Students are assigned cases, conduct client interviews, draft pleadings and represent victims in criminal proceedings in Superior Court under the supervision of an attorney.

"These students are our future judges, prosecutors, and public defenders. It is our due diligence to empower and educate them to fight for victims' rights and restitution," said Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board Executive Officer Julie Nauman. "As California's leader in victim services, we are proud to work with the McGeorge Resource Center and Clinic to better serve victims."

Through a one-hour multimedia presentation, staff further educated students about CalVCP's program, case law and the necessity of ordering and collecting restitution. "The training generated rich discussion and sparked new levels of analysis for several students. We are currently working on cases in which the material presented will be extremely helpful to the students," said Kathleen Benton, staff attorney and director of the Victims of Crime Resource Center.

CalVCP works diligently to provide California crime victims with the best assistance possible and is committed to working with those inside the courtroom who make every effort to protect victims' rights. CalVCP will continue to equip other stakeholders with a unique understanding of the needs and rights of crime victims.

For more information about CalVCP visit: www.calvcp.ca.gov

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The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. Among the crimes covered are domestic violence, child abuse, sexual and physical assault, homicide, robbery, drunk driving and vehicular manslaughter.

If a person meets eligibility criteria, CalVCP will compensate many types of services when the costs are not covered by other sources.

Eligible services include medical and dental care, mental health services, income loss, funeral expenses, rehabilitation and relocation. Funding for CalVCP comes from restitution fines and orders, penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses, and federal matching funds.